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Norwich, Tuesday, Feb. 16, 1909.

COURTESY ON THE TROLLEY LINES.

As a rule it is quite likely that those who complain most of the manners of the trolley car conductors are not themselves sweet dispositioned or mild tempered.

Courtesy on the trolley lines is what makes traveling the more enjoyable and what makes the lines more popular and profitable.

The receiver managing a New York trolley line urged the conductors to be pleasant and polite to all passengers as a sure means of increasing business and making the lines profitable.

This is good management and fore-shadows good business. There are conditions which tend to make passengers irritable often.

The crowded car, the strap-hanging and the general discomfort at some hours of the day, when the traveling public is tired and seeking rest, is the cause of most of the disputes and exciting incidents witnessed while traveling on the trolley lines.

Courtesy is just as commendable when practiced by a passenger as when manifested by the conductor, and it is highly to the credit of any traveler to show the good breeding which keeps him calm and polite under the most trying circumstances.

The trolley lines are where weary people meet—the worn conductors and the tired people—toward the close of the day. Disregard of manners is too common on the part of travelers and it takes a conductor of self-control and superior personal qualities to remain always calm and civil, but that is the best business policy and that is the kind of a conductor who should command the highest commendation of his employers and the best salary.

SELLING MEN AT AUCTION.

That was a novel spectacle when a New York pastor of a recent evening attempted to sell forty enforced idle and dependent married men to a congregation of means of procuring for them a chance to get an honest living.

This method of selling men under any circumstances is open to the severest criticism, even if it is only to excite interest and bring relief. It did not result satisfactorily. Only four of the men were bid off at low wage rates, and contributions were made for the remaining thirty-six to help them to live until they could find employment.

There is no knowing but the result of this sale was the procurement of four men at a cheaper wage than men now in employment and that four men best their work for four men who would do it for less money, per week, result which may have made matters worse instead of better.

What appears to be charitable work along these lines often proves to be cruel to others because it throws them into the same state of privation the others were in before they found work, and their relief is the other man's distress.

It is no easy matter to justify and equitably solve problems of this kind, and it is often claimed by labor that more harm than good has been done by the same state of privation the others were in before they found work, and their relief is the other man's distress.

A POLITICAL CENSUS.

Here in little old New England we do not realize what the political census is, against what President Roosevelt has put down his foot, and where it is understood the president needs no claquers to win for him applause. An instance of a political enumeration is being cited at Omaha. In 1890 the ward-heeler enumerators appointed there were called together by the political bosses and were instructed how to make their returns. They were told that they were expected to show that Omaha had a population of more than 140,000, regardless of the facts. In order to carry out these instructions, the enumerators in the various wards were obliged to pad their books, and they did it by copying names out of a Cincinnati directory. It took two attempts before the figures suited the bosses, who went over the books before they were submitted to the federal census supervisor, and the total finally returned gave Omaha an official record of containing 149,452 people. For ten years these figures were quoted as correct, and Omaha was classed as a "boom" town. But the day of reckoning came in 1900. An honest census supervisor, aware of what had occurred in 1890, issued orders that there was to be no such manipulation of the figures again. The result was that when the census was completed Omaha was credited with only 102,555 inhabitants, a decrease of 26.9 per cent. in a decade. The political bosses protested against such a showing being made public, but they failed to accomplish their purpose, and Omaha has since had the unenviable notoriety of being a down-grade city, though those familiar with the matter were well aware that it contained more inhabitants in 1900 than it did in 1890.

The Newark News says: "A majority of the men who took the federal census of the 8th City in 1900 had no conception of the nature of their duties. They secured their positions because of their political pull, and they did just as little work as they could and still draw their pay. Some of the lists turned in by them bore evidence of having been copied from a directory in the back rooms of saloons, and it was found necessary to have much of the work done over again under the direction of a local supervisor. The total number of inhabitants of Paterson, according to this enumeration, was 111,529, though there was every reason to believe that the city had at that time over 130,000 population."

This is the kind of work the president

dent opposes, and he has with him all fair minded men.
An honest census is what the president wants, what the country desires, and what the people stand for.

WHY THIS EXCEPTION?

This country has prohibition states and prohibition states, but Kansas seems destined to out-prohibition them all by making a law which absolutely prohibits the manufacture of intoxicating beverages in the state, the only exceptions being in the case of cider or wine, which may be made by persons raising apples or grapes, but strictly for their own use. The sale of all liquors is placed under a ban, although churches may purchase wine for communion use. Agents are even forbidden, under penalty, to solicit or receive orders for liquors, and any one contracting to furnish a citizen of the state with intoxicating beverages is subject to a heavy fine and imprisonment. The physician's prescription doesn't go. If alcohol is needed in the arts or laboratory it must be of the standard variety. The "social club" articles, entirely out of business. Liquor is outlawed, and Kansas is about to spell prohibition with the biggest P the country has ever seen. But why should churches be excepted in this law? If it is a crime for a citizen to supply to another fermented liquors because it is evil, why should the church, which is good, be permitted to do what in the case of the citizen has been made a crime?

There is ample authority for the statement that the Bible wines were unfettered. Many of the churches refuse to put to the lips of their brethren liquor which will befuddle them, and will have to do only with unfettered wines.

If it is a crime for a citizen to sell or give wine to a citizen, it is an equal crime for the church to do it, and such an exception as this is a shame to the religion asking it, whatever its name or wherever it may exist.

TO CHECK POLITICAL FLOATERS.

The report of the special commission upon the direct primary was presented to the legislature last week by Judge Perry and The Courant's opinion is that it will be studied with open eyes.

As briefly explained by The Courant the plan which the commission reports provides for holding the primaries at the little town meetings on the first Monday of October, thus reducing the expense. Only those who can vote at primaries who are registered as members of the party whose primary they propose to take part in, and nobody can shift to another party within ninety days of a primary. If he does, he loses his right to vote at a primary. The voting at the primaries is by secret ballot. The ballots of the parties are to be of different colors and to be printed by the state and not given out in advance of the day of voting. Many other provisions are included, and it is believed the law is as practicable and fair as any to be found. It prevents the chief complaint against primaries—that members of one party vote at the other's primary; it guards against fraud; it is clear and practicable.

A law which promises so much that is desirable and so little that is objectionable, certainly ought to be enacted into law. It is a fact that it is so thoroughly studied that no mistake can be made in its consideration.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There is no doubt that Senator Knox as secretary of state would be worth the higher salary.

The Taft dinner at New Orleans cost \$25 a plate, and Taft is spoken of as a simple liver, too.

There is no end to the variety of memorial services, but it is a fact that all of them are good.

Happy thought for today: Be cheerful when detection holds you; he makes duty up-hill work.

President-elect Taft attended a Crooks party at New Orleans, and nothing serious has happened in consequence of it.

One-half the negroes of Jackson, Miss., own their own homes; and they rent houses to other negroes paying \$12.00 rent a year.

They say down south that Billy Possum runs so fast that he cannot see his shadow, and thus goes the groundhog one better.

Cuba is showing signs of weakness in government which throws suspicion upon her ability to do things for the best good of her people.

The groundhog for 1909 has lost his reputation, and is now regarded as a light no better than that which illumines the end-seen hog.

Missouri has risen up with a proposal to have all lobbyists wear a button so that they shall be known for what they really are.

At Rutland, Vt., it is proposed, if the right men decline to serve as city fathers, to proceed to draft them. How is this for a free country?

It is said that it is better to be born in North Carolina than to be raised there, but that cannot be said for a truth of Connecticut.

Indiana excels Connecticut in this: In future in that state there can be but one saloon in every 500 of the inhabitants of a license town.

Texas proposes to tax bachelors from \$15 to \$25 a head. They do not propose to some woman once a year the highest tax is to be imposed.

It is human to think much more of a dead great man than of a living one. Lincoln could never have endured what is now being proposed in his honor.

The chartered negro banks in the state of Mississippi aggregated three-fourths of a million capital in 1908 and expect to exceed the million mark this year.

The extraordinary people, says the Charleston News and Courier, outnumber the common people in South Carolina ten to one. This is a modest avowal.

Next week the people will celebrate the birthday of George Washington, who will ever remain "first in peace, first in war, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

"Do you give your dog any exercise?" he goes for a tramp every day."—Leslie's Weekly.

THE BULLETIN'S DAILY STORY IN THE TELEPHONE BOOTH.

"Hello! That you, Harriet? Yeh, this is Bessie. Oh, fair to middling. Ain't it something fierce the weather we're havin'?" I sh'd say. When you comin' over? What? I was at your house to stay a week. Now it's your turn. I don't see what made you think I was coming back. Yeh, I was to a valentine dance since I seen you. I sh'd say. Hearts strung across the room like a wash and cake with fortunes in 'em. What? You want to know about that? Now, you needn't get too funny, for he ain't even wrote to me since he went on the road this time. I got eight valentines and some 'vlets to the party. What? Yeh, my blue dress. I fixed it up a bit and it looked swell. I can tell you. Mr. Ford said it certainly had an air of its own it was that distinguished. 'Say! I was on the car today when I noticed this here Mrs. Atwood and sat right by me. And maybe she did n't take more'n half the seat, too. Yeh, Sam's mother. I knew that'd get you going. Sure, talked to her. I sh'd say. It was great. She told me all about the girl Sam's going to marry, and she's in one now where she comes in with a brass dish and says, 'A gentleman, miss.' Lena says that's doing well and she thinks her sister is a servant's part. How much do you want to give her? Yeh, I sh'd say. 'Oh, I sh'd say; I was just wonderin' how I sh'd say some o' goin' on the stage myself. I've thought of a whole lot of things, but I do know. I'm tired of doing nothing. I guess I'm sort o' nervous. Well, no, not blue exactly, but not very lively. I guess it's the weather. 'I was to a show, but it wasn't awful funny. The fellow I was with, though, he thought it was swell, but I didn't give a cent for it. And that's no joke, neither. Why, the fellow I met 'cross the street last night, you know, Swell dancer, but he can't talk for sour apples, I sh'd say. He ain't in no 'tender like some folks I know. 'I didn't see Charlie. I was thinking of a whole lot of fellows I met off on the street, but I ain't seen him. If he don't want to write he needn't. He ain't the only pebble on the beach. But Mr. Donovan—yeh, that's his name. Well, you'd oughter hear him laugh. He certainly got his money's worth. I like a fellow to laugh kind of classy. Oh, I don't know, diff-

"I was to walk with Jimmy on the lake shore Sunday. Say, I guess we seen everybody we ever did know. Who'd you suppose I seen Louis with? Nope, not her. This time it was that Miss Sanders. Yeh, the tall one. Whatever does a great big girl like that walk with such a sawed-off as him for? Jimmy says he thinks she is great, and I seen her did when we walked along with them. Louis said he seen her Saturday with a N' York fellow. What? 'Well, New Jersey ain't so far off. No, I don't care to be introduced. I'm too busy. Well, you needn't be so touchy. I ain't seen him yet. Louis says he's a dead finger for a swell. Them was his very words. I sh'd say. 'Charlie he don't use much slang and he don't like girls what do. Nope, he ain't fussy—just particular. It ain't everybody can afford to be particular. I tell you. I sh'd think it'd be awful to be out on the road like that and get sick. Kinder lonesome. Well, I do know that he's sick, o' course, but I just got to thinking how it'd be if he was. Oh, well, or anybody else, o' course. 'Say I'm downtown. I came down for some hatpins. Ain't it awful the way they get lost? I got to get some other things, too. Our club's going to give a show and I'm to be the fiances of the hero. I'm going to stay down and look at summer dresses to wear. I'll make mine, o' course, but I want the latest. Sure. 'I wrote and told Charlie the girls voted for him to be the hero, but o' course since he don't answer, I guess he ain't here. I sh'd say. I want to be in it anyhow. Maybe I'll get Miss Sanders to take the part. 'Say, I gave your address to a lot o' my friends when I was going to your house for that week. You know I was thinking some of staying a couple weeks. Yeh, well, say, there ain't any mail there for me, is there? What? 'You mailed four to me? When? Last night? Well, I do know you hold 'em up. I told you I wasn't coming. Oh, that's all right. Much obliged. 'What's that? Oh, I do know. I guess they'll be kinder smaller this year. Yeh, nope. I ain't thought about it none yet. 'Say, where they from? No, not the hats, them letters. You didn't notice the post office marks, did you? Peoria? Wasn't one from Ottowa? Pretty good guess, wasn't it? 'Twor Well, that's him, o' right. What? Nothing, only they was all from the same person, I guess. Nope. I don't know nobody that just to say lives there. Much obliged. 'I guess I was lonesome, there's such crowds down here. Talking to you cheered me just wonderful. I sh'd say. Sure, you know, it's coming on to rain, so I guess I'll go home fast as ever I can. What? Sun out up there? Well, I seen a lady with a umbrella and I ain't taking chances. Good-by."—Chicago News.

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